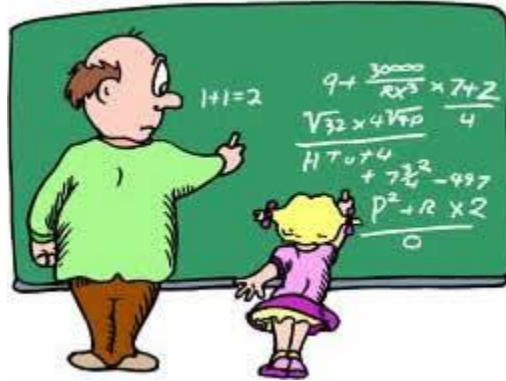


# Parents: Gifted and Talented



## What is Giftedness? (Wisconsin DPI)

The concept of giftedness has varied over the course of educational, philosophical, and psychological history. Educational approaches to meeting the needs of students with gifts and talents have been based on our understanding of giftedness, so they have varied as our conceptualizations have shifted. We now accept that intelligence is not a single entity, but multifaceted. Guidelines for developing gifted education plans in Wisconsin are anchored in this broad notion of gifts and talents in several areas:

- Intellectual ability
- Academic Ability
- Creative Ability
- Artistic Ability
- Leadership

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***Who do I talk to if my child is talented and has not been identified?***

Parents should initially contact the classroom teacher with questions regarding talent identification, differentiation and possible next steps. The teacher will then consult with the Gifted and Talented coordinator (G/T). If additional assessments are warranted, parents will be contacted. The G/T coordinator and/or school counselor will arrange for the appropriate assessment to identify student needs. The results of testing regarding formal identification will be communicated to parents.

## ***When should I talk to the classroom teacher?***

Anytime, is a good time to contact your child's teacher concerning their educational needs. While spring or falls are optimum times to assess students, you may also call or e-mail anytime to schedule a meeting with the classroom teacher. In addition you are always welcome to visit your child's classroom.

## ***How will I know if my child has been identified for Gifted and Talented support?***

Parents play a central role in the identification process and will be included throughout the evaluation and educational plan

## ***What does it mean to differentiate instruction?***

Students come to school with a variety of learning needs and a wide range of interests. Differentiating instruction means that a teacher recognizes those academic differences and modifies classroom instruction in order to help each child reach his or her academic potential.

## ***How will I know if my child is receiving differentiated opportunities?***

Differentiation is designed to occur in all subjects in grades 3-8 with additional opportunities at the high school level. In many cases, a child may not be aware that adaptations have been made to meet his or her needs. Parents are encouraged to ask their child and/or teacher about assignments, groupings, projects and opportunities in the classroom

## ***How will I receive on-going information about my child's progress and support opportunities?***

Communication among parents, students and teachers is essential for parents to learn about supporting opportunities. Parents should contact the classroom teacher or G/T coordinator with any questions or concerns. Additionally, parent/teacher conferences are a good time to receive an update on your child's progress.

## ***How do I best prepare for meaningful parent/teacher conferences?***

The following questions for teachers may help you obtain more in-depth information about your child.

1. What do you see as my child's strengths and weaknesses?
2. If my child has a great deal of prior knowledge concerning a unit/theme, is there a way they can be given other options to broaden their knowledge base? Is it possible for them to move ahead to more complex subject matter or other opportunities?
3. How can I help my child at home?

## **Websites:**

**Resources Wisconsin Association for Talented & Gifted** (WATG) 1608  
W. Cloverdale Dr. Appleton, WI 54914 (920) 991-9177 Wisconsin  
Association for Gifted and Talented <http://www.watg.org/>

**Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth** (WCATY) 2909  
Landmark Place Madison, WI 53713 (608) 271-1617 [www.wcaty.org](http://www.wcaty.org)

**National Association for Gifted Children** (NAGC) 1707 L Street NW,  
Suite 550 Washington, DC 20036 (202) 785-4268 [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

### **48 Essential Links for the Parents of Gifted Children**

<http://oedb.org/ilibrarian/50-essential-links-for-the-parents-of-gifted-children/>

### **Hoagies Gifted Education Page**

<http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/>

### **The Teaching Tribune**

<http://www.theteachingtribune.com/2013/10/rti-for-enrichment.html>

### **Motivate: Maths Enrichment for Schools (grades K-12)**

[nea.org/tools/lessons/55537.htm](http://nea.org/tools/lessons/55537.htm)

**Exploring Space Through Math (grades 7-12)**  
**nea.org/tools/lessons/51941.htm**

# STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

## Gifted and Talented Services

### Academic

#### **Camp Badger Engineering Camp at UW-Madison /Summer**

Camp Badger is a one-week residential program for Wisconsin teenagers who will be **entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade** in the fall. There are opportunities to survey many types of engineering fields and begin to see the study of science and math as a path that can lead to great careers. Scholarships are available through the program (full and partial need-based).

<http://campbadger.engr.wisc.edu/>

#### **College Days for Kids /School Year**

College Days for Kids is a program designed for high-ability sixth graders. Participating schools bring these young people to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point campus for two Fridays of enrichment classes taught by University faculty and academic staff. The goals for the program are: to introduce sixth graders to a university setting and thereby encourage them to set appropriate educational goals, to provide higher level enrichment through exposure to a variety of topics in the humanities and sciences, and to promote healthy affective development through interactions with peers from other schools.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/gtNetwork/CDK/default.aspx>

#### **Midwest Academic Talent Search /Summer**

The Midwest Academic Talent Search (MATS) is part of a national program for identifying talented students by administering out-of-level tests such as the SAT I, ACT, and ACT-EXPLORE. WCATY works with the Northwestern University [Center for Talent Development](#) (CTD) to offer this program to Wisconsin students in **grades 4-9** who have already attained scores at or above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile (and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile) on standardized achievement tests. Students who participate in MATS also have their test results entered into WCATY's database and are notified of programs for which they are eligible to participate.

<http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats/about/>

#### **Stevens Point School District 's Summer School Enrichment Program /Summer**

The Enrichment Program is designed for students in **grades K – 4** to explore a unique theme during the summer. It integrates reading, writing, science, social studies, and math. The **grades 5 – 8** summer offerings include opportunities for art, drama, ecology, fitness, foreign languages, plants & animals, technology and computer. Updated summer school information will be available

<http://www.pointschools.net>

#### **Central Wisconsin Children's Museum**

Variety of topics that allow children to play, explore, and learn.

[www.cwchildrensmuseum.org/](http://www.cwchildrensmuseum.org/)

### **UW LaCrosse Programs /Summer**

Various topics include but are not limited to: Egypt, archaeology, and environmental explorers. Scroll to bottom of page to view course offerings.

<http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/youth/>

### **Wisconsin Space Academy Day Camps /Summer**

Camp, where cadets learn about astronomy and rocketry in a week-long, half-day camp. Cadets create and present their own planetarium show as well as launch rockets that they build during the camp!

<http://www.uwfox.uwc.edu/campconnect/foxbkids/>

### **Youth In College /Summer**

Youth in College (YIC) is a two-week summer enrichment program sponsored by the Stevens Point Area School District and hosted by the Network for Gifted Education at UW-Stevens Point. This program is designed for high academic ability students of **grades K – 8**.

Information about Youth In College is included in the Stevens Point School District 's summer school packet.

Class description packets can be picked up in school offices or accessed at the website below.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/qtNetwork/YouthInCollege/default.aspx>

### **Wisconsin Summer Camps and Youth Programs /Summer**

A multitude of camps and programs are listed in areas such as: Music, Art, Language, Space, Sports, Environmental, Engineering, Invention, Dance, Drama, Science, Math, Creative Arts, Writing.

<http://www.wisconline.com/attractions/camps/alpha.html>

### **Young Students Summer and School Year Programs (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) / School Year/ Summer**

Wisconsin Center for Academically Talented Youth (WCATY), held at Beloit College

<http://www.wcaty.org/>

## **Art**

### **Arts and Culture Outreach ( formerly Conservatory for Creative Expression at UWSP)/School Year/Summer**

The mission is to provide quality and meaningful arts experiences to the Stevens Point community and surrounding areas. Scholarships are available for Portage County youth. Contact phone number 346-3838. Go to link for more information and brochure.

[www.uwsp.edu/conted/aco/](http://www.uwsp.edu/conted/aco/)

### **Milwaukee Art Museum Summer Camps /Summer**

Milwaukee Art Museum is offering a variety of unique camps this summer. They offer morning sessions for children **ages 6-10** and afternoon sessions for children **ages 11-15**. Young artists in the Moving Picture Art Camp will explore the work of contemporary video artists in the exhibition Cut/Film as Found Object, while learning low-tech and high-tech animation processes from flip books to digitally manipulated images. The Drawing and Printmaking Art Camp will teach students a variety of drawing and printmaking techniques using the inspirational environment of the Museum.

<http://www.wisconline.com/attractions/camps/mam.html>

## **Drama**

### **Central Wisconsin Area Community Theater /School Year /Summer**

CWACT brings to life some of the best musicals, dramas, and comedies ever written. Participate as an audience member, behind the scenes, or even audition to be onstage!

<http://www.cwact.org/index.htm>

## **Leadership**

### **YMCA Teen Programs & Opportunities /School Year /Summer**

The YMCA offers Teen Leaders Club, Girls' Night Out, Adventure Club, Youth in Government, Youth Action Committee, and Teen Center.

<http://www.spymca.org/Teens.html>

## **Multiple Arts**

### **Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp (Twin Lake, MI)/Summer**

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp is proud of its continued service to gifted youth over the years. They see many students become a part of their long-standing tradition of summer arts education. For more information on the upcoming season (as well as scholarship opportunities), please contact their website.

<http://www.bluelake.org> or call them at 800-221-3796

### **Interlochen Summer Arts Camps (in Traverse City, MI) /Summer**

Opportunities for talented and motivated artistic students in grades 3-12 to live, love and perform in the areas of: creative writing, dance, theater, general arts, music, motion pictures, visual arts.

<http://www.interlochen.org/camp/>

### **Wisconsin Summer Camps and Youth Programs /Summer**

A multitude of camps and programs are listed in areas such as: Music, Art, Language, Space, Sports, Environmental, Engineering, Invention, Dance, Drama, Science, Math,

Creative Arts, Writing.

<http://www.wisconline.com/attractions/camps/alpha.html>

## Music

### **Aber Suzuki Center at UWSP /Summer**

ASC's mission is to teach using the philosophical principles and music education methods developed by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki and to nurture, motivate and inspire students, parents and teachers to incorporate these principles into their lives. They have music camps for strings and piano.

<http://www.uwsp.edu/suzuki/Pages/asi/programs/default.aspx>

### **Saturday Enrichment Program- UW Madison /School Year /Summer**

*The Saturday Enrichment Program* provides a student-centered environment to explore a wide range of interests and new academic areas to empower 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders to ask and learn about career options, interests, and choices. Courses include performance arts, photography, visual arts, limnology, vet medicine, science and more.

<http://www.education.wisc.edu/outreach/?folder=content&pageName=learningOpDetails&pageid=21>

### **Stevens Point School District Band Program /School Year**

Individual lesson and full band rehearsal each week. Concerts and playing opportunities throughout the year. Contact your school band teacher for details .

### **Stevens Point School District Orchestra Program /School Year**

Individual lesson and full orchestra rehearsal each week. Concerts and playing opportunities throught the year. Contact your school orchestra teacher for details.

### **UW-SP Music Department /School Year /Summer**

You may contact this department to inquire about private instrumental lessons for school children of all ages.

### **Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) /School Year**

Nearly 3000 young musicians from more than 100 communities in southern Wisconsin have participated in WYSO during its 40 years of providing excellence in musical opportunities. The orchestras rehearse on Saturday mornings during the academic year, perform three to four public concerts per season, and tour regionally, nationally and internationally.

<http://wyso.music.wisc.edu/AboutWYSO.html>

### **Solo & Ensemble Competition – Stevens Point School District Grades 7-12 /School Year**



Contact your school's vocal and instrumental teachers for dates and details

**Lawrence Academy of Music Camp** (Lawrence University, Appleton) /**Summer**

[http://www.lawrence.edu/dept/acad\\_music/camps.shtml](http://www.lawrence.edu/dept/acad_music/camps.shtml) **Stevens Point School District Summer Band**

**Lessons & Camp /Summer**

Individual lessons are offered at 3 elementary school sites for a low cost. Registration and details are included in the summer school packet. Registration packets are at your child's school office or the district office at 345-7320.